AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005-06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1076

Introduced by Assembly Member Cogdill

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Sections 1240, 17002, 17014, 17070.15, 41020 of, and to add Section 35186 and Article 9.3 (commencing with Section 35276) to Chapter 2 of Part 21 to, the Education Code, relating to public education, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1076, as amended, Cogdill. Public education: Williams case settlement: implementation.

Existing law establishes various requirements with respect to teacher credentialing, instructional materials, and school facilities.

This bill would declare that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to ensure that the settlement agreement in the ease of Williams v. State of California is properly implemented.

This bill would require the county superintendent of schools of each county, by March 1, 2006, to establish an Education Monitoring Task Force, composed as specified, which shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the settlement agreement in the case of Williams v. State of California (Super. Ct., San Francisco, No. CGC-00-312236), with respect to, among other things, the adequacy and sufficiency of instructional materials, the condition of school facilities that are not maintained in a clean or safe manner or in good repair, and teacher vacancies and misassignments.

The bill would also impose various requirements on school districts with respect to consulting with the county's Education Monitoring Task Force with respect to, among other things, instructional

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materials, school facilities, and teacher vacancy or misassignments, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.

The bill would also require a school district, by January 1, 2006, to implement a uniform complaint process, as specified, to help identify and resolve deficiences related to instructional materials, the condition of school facilities that are not maintained in a clean or safe manner or in good repair, and teacher vacancies or misassignments, as defined, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.

The bill would appropriate the sum of \$20,200,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Education, to be allocated as specified, for purposes of the bill.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no-yes. Fiscal committee: no yes. State-mandated local program: no-yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact
- 2 legislation to ensure that the settlement agreement in the case of
- 3 Williams v. State of California (Super. Ct., San Francisco, No.
- 4 CGC-00-312236) is properly implemented.

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- 5 SECTION 1. Section 1240 of the Education Code is amended 6 to read:
- 7 1240. The county superintendent of schools shall do all of the 8 following:
 - (a) Superintend the schools of his or her county.
 - (b) Maintain responsibility for the fiscal oversight of each school district in his or her county pursuant to the authority granted by this code.
- 13 (c) (1) Visit and examine each school in his or her county at 14 reasonable intervals to observe its operation and to learn of its 15 problems. He or she may annually present a report of the state of 16 the schools in his or her county, and of his or her office,

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including, but not limited to, his or her observations while visiting the schools, to the board of education and the board of supervisors of his or her county.

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- (2) (A) To the extent that funds are appropriated for purposes of this paragraph, the county superintendent, or his or her designee, shall annually present a report, in consultation with the county's Education Monitoring Task Force, to the governing board of each school district under his or her jurisdiction, the county board of education of his or her county, and the board of supervisors of his or her county describing the state of the schools in the county or of his or her office that are ranked in deciles 1 to 3, inclusive, of the 2003 base Academic Performance Index, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 17592.70, and shall include, among other things, his or her observations while visiting the schools.
- (B) The county superintendent of the Counties of Alpine, Amador, Del Norte, Mariposa, Plumas, Sierra, and the City and County of San Francisco shall contract with another county office of education or an independent auditor to conduct the required visits and make all reports required by this paragraph, in consultation with each respective county's Education Monitoring Task Force.
- (C) The results of the visit shall be reported to the governing board of the school district on a quarterly basis at a regularly scheduled meeting held in accordance with public notification requirements.
- (D) The visits made pursuant to this paragraph shall be conducted at least annually and shall meet the following criteria:
 - (i) Not disrupt the operation of the school.
- (ii) Be performed by individuals who meet the requirements of Section 45125.1.
- (iii) Consist of not less than 25 percent unannounced visits in each county. During unannounced visits in each county, the county superintendent shall not demand access to documents or specific school personnel. Unannounced visits shall only be used to observe the condition of school repair and maintenance and the sufficiency of instructional materials, as defined by Section 60119.
- *(iv)* Include at least one member of the county's Education 40 Monitoring Task Force.

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(E) The priority objective of the visits made pursuant to this paragraph shall be to determine the status of all of the following circumstances:

- (i) Sufficient textbooks as defined in Section 60119 and as specified in subdivision (i).
- (ii) The condition of a facility that poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of pupils or staff as defined in district policy, or as defined by paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 17592.72.
- (iii) The accuracy of data reported on the school accountability report card with respect to the availability of sufficient textbooks and instructional materials as defined by Section 60119 and the safety, cleanliness, and adequacy of school facilities, including good repair as required by Sections 17014, 17032.5, 17070.75, and 17089.
- (d) Distribute all laws, reports, circulars, instructions, and blanks that he or she may receive for the use of the school officers.
- (e) Annually present a report to the governing board of the school district and the Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding the fiscal solvency of any school district with a disapproved budget, qualified interim certification, or a negative interim certification, or that is determined at any time to be in a position of fiscal uncertainty pursuant to Section 42127.6.
- (f) Keep in his or her office the reports of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- (g) Keep a record of his or her official acts, and of all the proceedings of the county board of education, including a record of the standing, in each study, of all applicants for certificates who have been examined, which shall be open to the inspection of any applicant or his or her authorized agent.
 - (h) Enforce the course of study.
- (i) (1) Enforce the use of state textbooks and instructional materials and of high school textbooks and instructional materials regularly adopted by the proper authority.
- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, sufficient textbooks or instructional materials has the same meaning as in subdivision (c) of Section 60119.
- 39 (3) If a school is ranked in any of deciles 1 to 3, inclusive, of 40 the 2003 base Academic Performance Index, as defined in

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subdivision (b) of Section 17592.70, and is not currently under review through a state or federal intervention program, the county superintendent shall specifically review that school at least annually as a priority school. A review conducted for purposes of this paragraph shall be conducted within the first four weeks of the school year *and in consultation with the county's Education Monitoring Task Force*. For the 2004–05 fiscal year only, the county superintendent shall make a diligent effort to conduct a visit to each school pursuant to this paragraph within 120 days of receipt of funds for this purpose.

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- (4) If the county superintendent determines that a school does not have sufficient textbooks or instructional materials in accordance with subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 60119 and as defined by subdivision (c) of Section 60119, the county superintendent shall do all of the following, in consultation with the county's Education Monitoring Task Force:
- (A) Prepare a report that specifically identifies and documents the areas or instances of noncompliance.
- (B) Provide within five business days of the review, a copy of the report to the school district, as provided in subdivision (c), and forward the report to the Superintendent—of Public Instruction.
- (C) Provide the school district with the opportunity to remedy the deficiency. The county superintendent shall ensure remediation of the deficiency no later than the second month of the school term.
- (D) If the deficiency is not remedied as required pursuant to subparagraph (C), the county superintendent shall request the department, with approval by the State Board of Education, to purchase the textbooks or instructional materials necessary to comply with the sufficiency requirement of this subdivision. If the state board approves a recommendation from the department to purchase textbooks or instructional materials for the school district, the board shall issue a public statement at a regularly scheduled meeting indicating that the district superintendent and the governing board of the school district failed to provide pupils with sufficient textbooks or instructional materials as required by this subdivision. Before purchasing the textbooks or instructional materials, the department shall consult with the district to

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1 determine which textbooks or instructional materials to purchase.

- 2 All purchases of textbooks or instructional materials shall
- 3 comply with Chapter 3.25 (commencing with Section 60420) of
- 4 Part 33. The amount of funds necessary to the purchase the
- 5 textbooks and materials is a loan to the school district receiving 6 the textbooks or instructional materials. Unless the school district
- 7 repays the amount owed based upon an agreed-upon repayment
- repays the amount owed based upon an agreed-upon repayment
- 8 schedule with the Superintendent-of Public Instruction, the
- 9 Superintendent of Public Instruction shall notify the Controller 10 and the Controller shall deduct an amount equal to the total
- amount used to purchase the textbooks and materials, from the next principal apportionment of the district or from another apportionment of state funds.
 - (j) Preserve carefully all reports of school officers and teachers.
 - (k) Deliver to his or her successor, at the close of his or her official term, all records, books, documents, and papers belonging to the office, taking a receipt for them, which shall be filed with the department.
 - (*l*) (1) Submit two reports during the fiscal year to the county board of education in accordance with the following:
 - (A) The first report shall cover the financial and budgetary status of the county office of education for the period ending October 31. The second report shall cover the period ending January 31. Both reports shall be reviewed by the county board of education and approved by the county superintendent of schools no later than 45 days after the close of the period being reported.
 - (B) As part of each report, the county superintendent shall certify in writing whether or not the county office of education is able to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year and, based on current forecasts, for two subsequent fiscal years. The certifications shall be classified as positive, qualified, or negative, pursuant to standards prescribed by the Superintendent—of—Public—Instruction, for the purposes of determining subsequent state agency actions pursuant to Section 1240.1. For purposes of this subdivision, a negative certification shall be assigned to any county office of education that, based upon current projections, will be unable to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year or for the

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subsequent fiscal year. A qualified certification shall be assigned 2 to any county office of education that may not meet its financial 3 obligations for the current fiscal year or two subsequent fiscal 4 years. A positive certification shall be assigned to any county 5 office of education that will meet its financial obligations for the current fiscal year and subsequent two fiscal years. In accordance 7 with those standards, the Superintendent of Public Instruction 8 may reclassify any certification. If a county office of education receives a negative certification, the Superintendent-of Public 10 Instruction, or his or her designee, may exercise the authority set 11 forth in subdivision (c) of Section 1630. Copies of each certification, and of the report containing that certification, shall 12 13 be sent to the Superintendent of Public Instruction at the time the 14 certification is submitted to the county board of education. 15 Copies of each qualified or negative certification and the report 16 containing that certification shall be sent to the Controller at the 17 time the certification is submitted to the county board of 18 education. 19

(2) All reports and certifications required under this subdivision shall be in a format or on forms prescribed by the Superintendent—of Public Instruction, and shall be based on standards and criteria for fiscal stability adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to Section 33127. The reports and supporting data shall be made available by the county superintendent of schools to any interested party upon request.

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- (3) This subdivision does not preclude the submission of additional budgetary or financial reports by the county superintendent to the county board of education or to the Superintendent-of Public Instruction.
- (4) The county superintendent of schools is not responsible for the fiscal oversight of the community colleges in the county, however, he or she may perform financial services on behalf of those community colleges.
- (m) If requested, act as agent for the purchase of supplies for the city and high school districts of his or her county.
- (n) For purposes of Section 44421.5, report to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing the identity of any certificated person who knowingly and willingly reports false fiscal expenditure data relative to the conduct of any educational program. This requirement applies only if, in the course of his or her normal

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duties, the county superintendent of schools discovers information that gives him or her reasonable cause to believe that false fiscal expenditure data relative to the conduct of any educational program has been reported.

SEC. 2. Section 17002 of the Education Code is amended to read:

- 17002. The following terms wherever used or referred to in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, respectively, unless a different meaning appears from the context:
- (a) "Apportionment" means a reservation of funds necessary to finance the cost of any project approved by the board for lease to an applicant school district.
 - (b) "Board" means the State Allocation Board.
- (c) "Cost of project" includes, but is not limited to, the cost of all real estate property rights, and easements acquired, and the cost of developing the site and streets and utilities immediately adjacent thereto, the cost of construction, reconstruction, or modernization of buildings and the furnishing and equipping, including the purchase of educational technology hardware, of those buildings, the supporting wiring and cabling, and the technological modernization of existing buildings to support that hardware, the cost of plans, specifications, surveys, and estimates of costs, and other expenses that are necessary or incidental to the financing of the project. For purposes of this section, "educational technology hardware" includes, but is not limited to, computers, telephones, televisions, and video cassette recorders.
- 28 (d) "Education Monitoring Task Force" means the task force 29 established pursuant to Section 35276.

(d)

- (e) (1) "Good repair" means the facility is maintained in a manner that assures that it is clean, safe, and functional as determined pursuant to an interim evaluation instrument developed by the Office of Public School Construction. The instrument shall not require capital enhancements beyond the standards to which the facility was designed and constructed.
- (2) By January 25, 2005, the Office of Public School Construction shall develop the interim evaluation instrument based on existing prototypes and shall consult with county superintendents of schools county Education Monitoring Task

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Forces and school districts during the development of the instrument. The Office of Public School Construction shall report and make recommendations to the Legislature and Governor not later than December 31, 2005, regarding options for state standards as an alternative to the interim evaluation instrument developed pursuant to paragraph (1). By September 1, 2006, the Legislature and Governor shall, by statute, determine the state standard that shall apply for subsequent fiscal years.

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(f) "Lease" includes a lease with an option to purchase.

(f)

(g) "Project" means the facility being constructed or acquired by the state for rental to the applicant school district and may include the reconstruction or modernization of existing buildings, construction of new buildings, the grading and development of sites, acquisition of sites therefor and any easements or rights-of-way pertinent thereto or necessary for its full use including the development of streets and utilities.

(g)

- (h) "Property" includes all property, real, personal or mixed, tangible or intangible, or any interest therein necessary or desirable for carrying out the purposes of this chapter.
- SEC. 3. Section 17014 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 17014. (a) The board shall require the school district to make all necessary repairs, renewals, and replacements to ensure that a project is at all times kept in good repair, working order, and condition. All costs incurred for this purpose shall be borne by the school district.
- (b) In order to ensure compliance with subdivision (a) and encourage applicants to maintain all buildings under their control, the board shall require the applicant to do all of the following prior to the approval of a project:
- (1) Establish a restricted account within the general fund of the school district for the exclusive purpose of providing moneys for regular maintenance and routine repair of school buildings, according the highest priority to funding for the purpose set forth in subdivision (a).
- (2) Agree to deposit into the account established pursuant to paragraph (1), in each fiscal year for the term of the lease

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agreements of all projects constructed under this chapter, a minimum amount equal to or greater than 2 percent of the general fund budget of the applicant district for that fiscal year. This paragraph is applicable only to the following districts:

- (A) High school districts with average daily attendance greater than 300.
- (B) Elementary school districts with average daily attendance greater than 900.
- (C) Unified school districts with average daily attendance greater than 1,200.
- (c) For each project funded after July 1, 1998, the board shall require the applicant school district governing board to certify, as part of the annual budget process of the school district and beginning in the fiscal year in which the project is funded by the state, that a plan has been prepared for completing major maintenance, repair, and replacement requirements for the project. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "major maintenance, repair, and replacement" means roofing, siding, painting, floor and window coverings, fixtures, cabinets, heating and cooling systems, landscaping, fences, and other items designated by the governing board of the school district. The board shall require the school district's governing board to certify that the plan includes and is being implemented as follows:
- (1) Identification of the major maintenance, repair, and replacement needs for the project.
- (2) Specification of a schedule for completing the major maintenance, repair, and replacement needs.
- (3) Specification of a current cost estimate for the scheduled major maintenance, repair, and replacement needs.
- (4) Specification of the school district's schedule for funding a reserve to pay for the scheduled major maintenance, repair, and replacement needs.
- (5) Review of the plan annually, as a part of the annual budget process of the school district, and update, as needed, the major maintenance, repair, and replacement needs, the estimates of expected costs, and any adjustments in funding the reserve.
- (6) Availability for public inspection of the original plan, and all updated versions of the plan, at the office of the superintendent of the school district during the working hours of the school district.

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(7) Review of, and comment on, the plan by the county's 2 Education Monitoring Task Force. 3

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- (8) Provision in the annual budget of the school district of a provision that states the total funding available in reserve for scheduled major maintenance, repair and replacement needs as specified in the updated plan, and an explanation if this amount is less than that specified in the updated plan. The reserve shall be maintained in the restricted account established pursuant to subdivision (b).
- (d) For purposes of this section, "good repair" has the same meaning as specified in subdivision (d) of Section 17002.
- SEC. 4. Section 17070.15 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 17070.15. The following terms, wherever used or referred to in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, respectively, unless a different meaning appears from the context:
- (a) "Apportionment" means a reservation of funds for the purpose of eligible new construction, modernization, or hardship approved by the board for an applicant school district.
- (b) "Attendance area" means the geographical area serving an existing high school and those junior high schools and elementary schools included therein.
- (c) "Board" means the State Allocation Board as established by Section 15490 of the Government Code.
- (d) "Committee" means the State School Building Finance Committee established pursuant to Section 15909.
- (e) "Education Monitoring Task Force" means the task force established pursuant to Section 35276.
- (f) "County fund" means a county school facilities fund established pursuant to Section 17070.43.

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(g) "Department" means the Department of General Services.

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(h) "Fund" means the applicable 1998 State School Facilities Fund, the 2002 State School Facilities Fund, or the 2004 State School Facilities Fund, established pursuant to Section 17070.40.

38 (h)

39 (i) "Good repair" has the same meaning as specified in 40 subdivision (d) of Section 17002.

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1 (i)

 (j) "Modernization" means any modification of a permanent structure that is at least 25 years old, or in the case of a portable classroom, that is at least 20 years old, that will enhance the ability of the structure to achieve educational purposes.

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(k) "Portable classroom" means a classroom building of one or more stories that is designed and constructed to be relocatable and transportable over public streets, and with respect to a single story portable classroom, is designed and constructed for relocation without the separation of the roof or floor from the building and when measured at the most exterior walls, has a floor area not in excess of 2,000 square feet.

14 (k)

(1) "Property" includes all property, real, personal or mixed, tangible or intangible, or any interest therein necessary or desirable for carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

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(m) "School building capacity" means the capacity of a school building to house pupils.

(m)

- (n) "School district" means a school district or a county office of education. For purposes of determining eligibility under this chapter, "school district" may also mean a high school attendance area.
- SEC. 5. Section 35186 is added to the Education Code, to read:
- 35186. (a) A school district shall use the uniform complaint process required by Chapter 5.1 (commencing with Section 4600) of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, with modifications, as necessary, to help identify and resolve deficiencies related to instructional materials, the condition of a school facility that is not maintained in a clean or safe manner or in good repair, and a teacher vacancy or misassignment. The following are applicable with respect to complaints filed pursuant to this section:
- (1) A complaint may be filed anonymously. A complainant who identifies himself or herself is entitled to a response if he or she indicates that a response is requested. A complaint form shall

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include a space to mark to indicate whether a response is requested. All complaints and responses are public records.

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- (2) The complaint form shall specify the location for filing a complaint. A complainant may add as much text to explain the complaint as he or she wishes.
- (3) A complaint shall be filed with the principal of the school or his or her designee. A complaint about problems beyond the authority of the school principal shall be forwarded in a timely manner, but not to exceed 10 working days, to the appropriate school district official for resolution.
- (b) The principal or the designee of the district superintendent, as applicable, shall make all reasonable efforts to investigate any problem within his or her authority. The principal or designee of the district superintendent shall remedy a valid complaint within a reasonable time period but not to exceed 30 working days from the date the complaint was received. The principal or designee of the district superintendent shall report to the complainant the resolution of the complaint within 45 working days of the initial filing. if the principal makes this report, the principal shall also report the same information in the same timeframe to the designee of the district superintendent.
- (c) A complainant not satisfied with the resolution of the principal or the designee of the district superintendent has the right to describe the complaint to the governing board of the school district at a regularly scheduled hearing of the governing board. As to complaints involving a condition of a facility that poses an emergency or urgent threat, as described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 17592.72, a complainant who is not satisfied with the resolution proffered by the principal or the designee of the district superintendent has the right to file an appeal to the Superintendent, who shall provide a written report to the State Board of Education describing the basis for the complaint and, as appropriate, a proposed remedy for the issue described In the complaint.
- (d) A school district shall report summarized data on the nature and resolution of all complaints on a quarterly basis to the county superintendent of schools, the county's Education Monitoring Task Force, and the governing board of the school district. The summary shall be publicly reported on a quarterly basis at a regularly scheduled meeting of the governing board of

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the school district. The report shall include the number of complaints by general subject area with the number of resolved and unresolved complaints. The complaints and written responses shall be available as public records.

- (e) The procedure required pursuant to this section is intended to address all of the following:
- (1) A complaint related to instructional materials, including all of the following:
- (A) That a pupil, including an English learner, does not have standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials, or state-adopted or district-adopted textbooks or other required instructional materials to use in class.
- (B) That a pupil does not have access to instructional materials to use at home or after school in order to complete required homework assignments.
- (C) That textbooks or instructional materials are in poor or unusable condition, having missing pages, or are unreadable due to damage.
- (2) A complaint related to teacher vacancy or misassignment, including any of the following:
- (A) That a semester has begun, and a certified teacher is not assigned to teach a class.
- (B) That a teacher who lacks credentials or training to teach English learners is assigned to teach a class with more than 20 percent English learner pupils in the class. This subparagraph does not relieve a school district from complying with state or federal law regarding teachers of English learners.
- (C) That a teacher is assigned to teach a class for which the teacher lacks subject matter competency.
 - (3) A complaint related to the condition of school facilities.
- (f) In order to identify appropriate subjects of complaint, a notice shall be posted in each classroom in each school in the school district notifying parents and guardians of all of the following:
- (1) There is a requirement that a school provide sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. In order to meet this requirement, each pupil, including English learners, shall have a textbook or instructional materials, or both, to use in class and to take home to complete required homework assignments.

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(2) There is a requirement that school facilities shall be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair.

- (3) The location at which to obtain a form to file a complaint in case of a shortage. Posting a notice downloadable from the Web site of the department shall satisfy this requirement.
- (g) A local educational agency shall establish local policies and procedures, post notices, and implement this section on or before January 1, 2007.
- (h) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:
- (1) "Good repair" has the same meaning as specified in subdivision (e) of Section 17002.
- (2) "Misassignment" means the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position for which the employee does not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential, or the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position that the employee is not otherwise authorized by statute to hold.
- (3) "Teacher vacancy" means a vacant teacher position as defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (b) of Section 33126.
- SEC. 6. Article 9.3 (commencing with Section 35276) is added to Chapter 2 of Part 21 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 9.3. Education Monitoring Task Force

35276. (a) By March 1, 2006, the county superintendent of schools shall establish an Education Monitoring Task Force, which shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the settlement agreement in the case of Williams v. State of California (Super. Ct., San Francisco, No. CGC-00-312236), with respect to, among other things, the adequacy and sufficiency of instructional materials, the condition of school facilities that are not maintained in a clean or safe manner or in good repair, and teacher vacancies or misassignments.

(b) The task force shall be a multicultural body, consisting of five members, appointed by the county superintendent, who represent the state's diversity and are representatives of pupils in the county, parents of pupils in the county, and community members in the county.

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1 SEC. 7. Section 41020 of the Education Code is amended to 2 read:

- 41020. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage sound fiscal management practices among school districts for the most efficient and effective use of public funds for the education of children in California by strengthening fiscal accountability at the district, county, and state levels.
- (b) (1) Not later than the first day of May of each fiscal year, each county superintendent of schools shall provide for an audit of all funds under his or her jurisdiction and control and the governing board of each local educational agency shall either provide for an audit of the books and accounts of the local educational agency, including an audit of income and expenditures by source of funds, or make arrangements with the county superintendent of schools having jurisdiction over the local educational agency to provide for that auditing.
- (2) A contract to perform the audit of a local educational agency that has a disapproved budget or has received a negative certification on any budget or interim financial report during the current fiscal year or either of the two preceding fiscal years, or for which the county superintendent of schools has otherwise determined that a lack of going concern exists, is not valid unless approved by the responsible county superintendent of schools and the governing board.
- (3) If the governing board of a local educational agency has not provided for an audit of the books and accounts of the local educational agency by April 1, the county superintendent of schools having jurisdiction over the local educational agency shall provide for the audit of each local educational agency.
- (4) An audit conducted pursuant to this section shall fully comply with the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.
- (5) For purposes of this section, "local educational agency" does not include community colleges.
- (c) Each audit conducted in accordance with this section shall include all funds of the local educational agency, including the student body and cafeteria funds and accounts and any other funds under the control or jurisdiction of the local educational agency. Each audit shall also include an audit of pupil attendance procedures.

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(d) All audit reports for each fiscal year shall be developed and reported using a format established by the Controller after consultation with the Superintendent—of Public Instruction and the Director of Finance.

- (e) (1) The cost of the audits provided for by the county superintendent of schools shall be paid from the county school service fund and the county superintendent of schools shall transfer the pro rata share of the cost chargeable to each district from district funds.
- (2) The cost of the audit provided for by a governing board shall be paid from local educational agency funds. The audit of the funds under the jurisdiction and control of the county superintendent of schools shall be paid from the county school service fund.
- (f) (1) The audits shall be made by a certified public accountant or a public accountant, licensed by the California Board of Accountancy, and selected by the local educational agency, as applicable, from a directory of certified public accountants and public accountants deemed by the Controller as qualified to conduct audits of local educational agencies, which shall be published by the Controller not later than December 31 of each year.
- (2) Commencing with the 2003–04 fiscal year and except as provided in subdivision (d) of Section 41320.1, it is unlawful for a public accounting firm to provide audit services to a local educational agency if the lead audit partner, or coordinating audit partner, having primary responsibility for the audit, or the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit, has performed audit services for that local educational agency in each of the six previous fiscal years. The Education Audits Appeal Panel may waive this requirement if the panel finds that no otherwise eligible auditor is available to perform the audit.
- (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that, notwithstanding paragraph (2)—of this subdivision, the rotation within public accounting firms conform to provisions of the federal Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-204; 15 U.S.C. Sec. 7201 et seq.), and upon release of the report required by the act of the Comptroller General of the United States addressing the mandatory rotation of registered public accounting firms, the Legislature intends to reconsider the provisions of paragraph (2).

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1 In determining which certified public accountants and public 2 accountants shall be included in the directory, the Controller 3 shall use the following criteria:

- (A) The certified public accountants or public accountants shall be in good standing as certified by the Board of Accountancy.
- (B) The certified public accountants or public accountants, as a result of a quality control review conducted by the Controller pursuant to Section 14504.2, shall not have been found to have conducted an audit in a manner constituting noncompliance with subdivision (a) of Section 14503.
- (g) (1) The auditor's report shall include each of the following:
- (A) A statement that the audit was conducted pursuant to standards and procedures developed in accordance with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 14500) of Part 9-of Division 1 of Title 1.
- (B) A summary of audit exceptions and management improvement recommendations.
- (C) Each local education agency's audit shall include an auditor's evaluation on whether there is substantial doubt about the local agency's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time. This evaluation shall be based on the Statement of Auditing Standards (SAS) No. 59, as issued by the AICPA regarding disclosure requirements relating the entity's ability to continue as a going concern.
- (2) To the extent possible, a description of correction or plan of correction shall be incorporated in the audit report, describing the specific actions that are planned to be taken, or that have been taken, to correct the problem identified by the auditor. The descriptions of specific actions to be taken or that have been taken shall not solely consist of general comments such as "will implement," "accepted the recommendation," or "will discuss at a later date."
- (h) Not later than December 15, a report of each local educational agency audit for the preceding fiscal year shall be filed with the county superintendent of schools of the county in which the local educational agency is located, the State Department of Education department, and the Controller. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall make any adjustments

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necessary in future apportionments of all state funds, to correct any audit exceptions revealed by those audit reports.

- (i) (1) Commencing with the 2002–03 audit of local educational agencies pursuant to this section, each county superintendent of schools shall be responsible for reviewing the audit exceptions contained in an audit of a local educational agency under his or her jurisdiction related to attendance, inventory of equipment, internal control, and any miscellaneous items, and determining whether the exceptions have been either corrected or an acceptable plan of correction has been developed.
- (2) Commencing with the 2004–05 audit of local educational agencies pursuant to this section, each county superintendent of schools shall include in the review of audit exceptions performed pursuant to this subdivision those audit exceptions related to use of instructional materials program funds, teacher misassignments pursuant to Section 44258.9, information reported on the school accountability report card required pursuant to Section 33126 and shall determine, in consultation with the county's Education Monitoring Task Force, whether the exceptions are either corrected or an acceptable plan of correction has been developed.
- (j) Upon submission of the final audit report to the governing board of each local educational agency and subsequent receipt of the audit by the county superintendent of schools having jurisdiction over the local educational agency, the county office of education shall do all of the following:
- (1) Review audit exceptions related to attendance, inventory of equipment, internal control, and other miscellaneous exceptions. Attendance exceptions or issues shall include, but not be limited to, those related to revenue limits, adult education, and independent study.
- (2) If a description of the correction or plan of correction has not been provided as part of the audit required by this section, then the county superintendent of schools shall notify the local educational agency and request the governing board of the local educational agency to provide to the county superintendent of schools a description of the corrections or plan of correction by March 15.
- (3) Review the description of correction or plan of correction and determine its adequacy. If the description of the correction or plan of correction is not adequate, the county superintendent of

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schools shall require the local educational agency to resubmit that portion of its response that is inadequate.

- (k) Each county superintendent of schools shall certify to the Superintendent-of Public Instruction and the Controller, not later than May 15, that his or her staff has reviewed all audits of local educational agencies under his or her jurisdiction for the prior fiscal year, that all exceptions that the county superintendent was required to review were reviewed, and that all of those exceptions, except as otherwise noted in the certification, have been corrected by the local educational agency or that an acceptable plan of correction has been submitted to the county superintendent of schools. In addition, the county superintendent identify, by local educational attendance-related audit exception or exceptions involving state funds, and require the local educational agency to which the audit exceptions were directed to submit appropriate reporting forms for processing by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- (*l*) In the audit of a local educational agency for a subsequent year, the auditor shall review the correction or plan or plans of correction submitted by the local educational agency to determine if the exceptions have been resolved. If not, the auditor shall immediately notify the appropriate county office of education and the State Department of Education department and restate the exception in the audit report. After receiving that notification, the State Department of Education department shall either consult with the local educational agency to resolve the exception or require the county superintendent of schools to follow up with the local educational agency.
- (m) (1) The Superintendent—of Public Instruction shall be responsible for ensuring that local educational agencies have either corrected or developed plans of correction for any one or more of the following:
- (A) All federal and state compliance audit exceptions identified in the audit.
- (B) Any exceptions that the county superintendent certifies as of May 15 have not been corrected.
- (C) Any repeat audit exceptions that are not assigned to a county superintendent to correct.
- 39 (2) In addition, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall 40 be responsible for ensuring that county superintendents of

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schools and each county board of education that serves as the governing board of a local educational agency either correct all audit exceptions identified in the audits of county superintendents of schools and of the local educational agencies for which the county boards of education serve as the governing boards or develop acceptable plans of correction for those exceptions.

- (3) The Superintendent—of Public Instruction shall report annually to the Controller on his or her actions to ensure that school districts, county superintendents of schools, and each county board of education that serves as the governing board of a school district have either corrected or developed plans of correction for any of the exceptions noted pursuant to paragraph (1).
- (n) To facilitate correction of the exceptions identified by the audits issued pursuant to this section, commencing with *audits* for the 2002–03–audits fiscal year pursuant to this section, the Controller shall require auditors to categorize audit exceptions in each audit report in a manner that will make it clear to both the county superintendent of schools and the Superintendent—of Public Instruction which exceptions they are responsible for ensuring the correction of by a local educational agency. In addition, the Controller annually shall select a sampling of county superintendents of schools and perform a followup of the audit resolution process of those county superintendents of schools and report the results of that followup to the Superintendent—of—Public—Instruction—and—the—county superintendents of schools that were reviewed.
- (o) County superintendents of schools shall adjust subsequent local property tax requirements to correct audit exceptions relating to local educational agency tax rates and tax revenues.
- (p) If a governing board or county superintendent of schools fails or is unable to make satisfactory arrangements for the audit pursuant to this section, the Controller shall make arrangements for the audit and the cost of the audit shall be paid from local educational agency funds or the county school service fund, as the case may be.
- (q) Audits of regional occupational centers and programs are subject to the provisions of this section.

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(r) This section does not authorize examination of, or reports on, the curriculum used or provided for in any local educational agency.

- (s) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonauditing, management, or other consulting service to be provided to a local educational agency by a certified public accounting firm while the certified public accounting firm is performing an audit of the agency pursuant to this section must be in accord with Government Accounting Standards, Amendment No. 3, as published by the United States General Accounting Office.
- SEC. 8. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.
- SEC. 9. (a) The sum of twenty million two hundred thousand dollars (\$20,200,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the State Department of Education in accordance with the following schedule:
- (1) The sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) to the State Department of Education for allocation to the State Instructional Materials Fund for purposes of acquiring instructional materials for school districts pursuant to subdivision (i) of Section 1240 of the Education Code.
- (2) The sum of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) to the State Department of Education for allocation to county offices of education to fund the review, monitor of, and reporting on teacher training, certification, misassignment, hiring and retention practices of school districts pursuant to subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 42127.6 of the Education Code, subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 44258.9 of the Education Code, and paragraph (4) of subdivision (e) of Section 44258.9 of the Education Code, and to conduct and report on site visits pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 1240 of the Education Code, and oversee schools, compliance with instructional materials sufficiency requirements as provided in paragraphs (2) to (4), inclusive, of subdivision (i) of Section 1240 of the Education Code.

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(B) Funds appropriated pursuant this paragraph shall be allocated annually to county offices of education at the rate of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for each school in the county ranked in deciles 1 to 3, inclusive, of the Academic Performance Index, pursuant to Section 52056 of the Education Code, based on the 2003 base Academic Performance Index score for each school, provided that the annual allocation for each county shall be a minimum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).

- (C) If there are insufficient funds in any year to make the allocations required by this paragraph, the department shall allocate funding in proportion to the number of sites in each county.
- (D) County offices shall contract with another county office or independent auditor for any work funded by this paragraph that is associated with a school operated by that county office.
- (3) The sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to the State Department of Education to implement this act.
- (b) For the purpose of making the computations required by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, the appropriation made by paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a) are "General Fund revenues appropriated for school districts," as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 41202 of the Education Code, for the 2004-05 fiscal year, and included within the "total allocations to school districts and community college districts from General Fund proceeds of taxes appropriated pursuant to Article XIII B," as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 41202 of the Education code for the 2004-05 fiscal year. Funds appropriated by this section shall be available for transfer or encumbrance for three fiscal years, beginning in the 2004-05 fiscal year.